



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
*Division Director*

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

#### Representatives Present During the Inspection:

Company	Dennis Ware	Controller
OGM	Pamela Grubaugh-Littig	Environmental Manager
OSM	Henry Austin	
Federal	Sue Berger	Mining Engineer Technician
OGM	Joe Helfrich	Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Dana Dean	Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Priscilla Burton	Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Wayne Western	Environmental Scientist III

Permittee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Site: **WILLOW CREEK MINE**

Address: **PO BOX 30, HELPER UT 84526-0030**

County: **CARBON**

Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**

Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

#### Current Acreages

14,670.00	<b>Total Permitted</b>
176.35	<b>Total Disturbed</b>
	<b>Phase I</b>
	<b>Phase II</b>
	<b>Phase III</b>

#### Mineral Ownership

- ☒ Federal  
☐ State  
☐ County  
☒ Fee  
☒ Other

#### Types of Operations

- ☒ Underground  
☐ Surface  
☒ Loadout  
☐ Processing  
☐ Reprocessing

#### Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The Permittee requested Phase I bond release on 20.8 acres of land related to the overland conveyor corridor in Willow Creek and Price Canyons and Phase III bond release on 36.4 acres of land related to the mine buildings in Willow Creek Canyon. The Permittee completed the reclamation in August of 2004.

## Inspection Report

Permit Number:	<b>C0070038</b>
Inspection Type:	<b>BOND RELEASE</b>
Inspection Date:	<b>Thursday, June 08, 2006</b>
Start Date/Time:	<b>6/8/2006 8:00:00 AM</b>
End Date/Time:	<b>6/8/2006 11:40:00 AM</b>
Last Inspection:	<b>Tuesday, May 23, 2006</b>

Inspector: Wayne Western, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: Mild temperatures with overcast sky

InspectionID Report Number: 966

Accepted by: whedberg

6/12/2006

Inspector's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Wayne Western, Environmental Scientist III

Inspector ID Number: 42

Date: Thursday, June 08, 2006

**Note:** This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

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## Inspection Continuation Sheet

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### REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
  - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale**

The Phase III bond release of 36.4 acres for an industrial/commercial use by the College of Eastern Utah is a condition of purchase of the property by the State of Utah (Purchase and Lease Agreement included in Attach. 6 of Ex. 23). The sale of the 36.4 acres is expected in July with the beginning of the 2007 fiscal year. The Division noted that one roll of conveyor belt and some old tires were on site. The Permittee committed to remove those items before the sale.

**2. Signs and Markers**

Permit signs and markers were present and in good repair at all mine entrances.

**4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions**

All diversions were properly maintained and in working order.

**4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments**

Only one impoundment remains at the site, Sedimentation Pond 001A, which the College of Eastern Utah will utilize for future sedimentation control. All regulations regarding permanent impoundments have been met in regard to this pond, the Permittee will supply the Division with a letter assuming future maintenance responsibility for the pond until other arrangements for maintenance can be made.

**4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures**

The deep gouging, seeding, and mulching has worked to keep sediment in place in the areas that were reclaimed. There was some small evidence of erosion in the slope where the portals were backfilled, but nothing of concern.

**5. Explosives**

No explosives were on site.

**6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches**

No excess spoil, fill, or benches were on site.

**7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments**

There was no coal mine waste, refuse piles, or impoundments made out of coal mine waste on site.

**8. Noncoal Waste**

The Permittee committed to remove the used tires from the site before July 1, 2006. All other noncoal waste was properly stored in waste containers.

**10. Slides and Other Damage**

There were not slides or other damage noted at the site.

## **12. Backfilling And Grading**

The Permittee completed all backfilling and grading in 2004. The backfilled slopes were stable. The pocks were controlling erosion and were slowly filling in. The Phase I area south of School House Canyon showed no signs of erosion or instability. The entrance to the long tunnel was sealed. The Phase I area in and around the sediment pond was stable. The tunnel entrances were sealed. The Phase III areas were stable. All highwalls were reclaimed.

## **13. Revegetation**

At this time, yellow sweet clover is the dominant species on the former substitute topsoil storage area at the Willow Creek mine facilities. This species was not seeded. (The 2004 Annual Report provides a copy of the mix seeded at Willow Creek and other areas seeded in 2004.) Also noted in the reclaimed areas were four wing saltbush, palmer penstemon (in bloom), blue flax (in bloom), western yarrow (in bloom), white stem rabbitbrush, Indian ricegrass, slender wheatgrass, western wheatgrass all of which were seeded species.

## **14. Subsidence Control**

No subsidence was expected to occur in the area because the area was not undermined.

## **16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing**

All roads that were left are primary roads and are scheduled to stay after final reclamation. All roads were stable and passable.

## **16.b Roads: Drainage Controls**

Drainage ditches and culverts associated with the remaining roads were well maintained and in functioning order.

## **17. Other Transportation Facilities**

No other transportation facilities were on site.

## **18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations**

The Division observed the buildings, propane tank, water tanks, pumphouse, and other support facilities that will be needed to support the postmining land use.